

REMARKS

Accompanying this amendment is a request for a three-month extension of time in which to respond to the office action along with an authorization to charge the required government fees to our deposit account.

Claim 24 which was rejected has been cancelled. Claims 22 and 27 have been amended to overcome the Examiner's objections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claims 22 and 27 distinguish from the references to Bandy Jr. et al. in view of Merten et al. relied upon by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Independent claim 22 has been amended to call for side and top profiles 176 to be nested in upper section 163A of the cast vertical arms 163 and to be exchangeable welded onto the side parts in the region of the top run. Claim 22 as amended also calls for the inner sides of the top and side profiles 176 to have a profile shape matched to the scraper ends. See Fig. 4 of the drawings. It is believed claim 22 as amended clearly distinguishes from the combination of Bandy ('724) and Merten ('341). Claims 23-28 depend from claim 22 and are allowable for the reasons recited for parent claim 22.

Accordingly, it is requested that the rejection of claims 22 to 28 be withdrawn and all of the remaining claims of the application be allowed.

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Respectfully submitted,

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